

MODIS Technical Team Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2004
Building 33, Room E125

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Robert Wolfe, Shaida Johnston, Chuck McClain, Steve Kempler, Dorothy Hall, Jack Xiong, and Ed Masuoka, with Yolanda Harvey taking the minutes.

1.0 Upcoming Events

- MODIS Science Team Meeting, — POSTPONED – Date TBD
- MODIS Ocean Color Review Meeting, Aerospace Bldg., Rm. 408, Lanham, MD February 11 & 12, 2004
- AGU Joint Assembly, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. May 17-21, 2004. Deadline for abstracts: February 12, 2004 (mail) and February 19 (electronic, before 9 pm EST) <http://www.agu.org> <http://www.agu.org/meetings/sm04/index.shtml>

2.0 Meeting Minutes

2.1 General Discussion

Salomonson announced that there would not be an MTT meeting next week because of the MODIS Ocean Color Review being held. Roger Drake (SBRS) will be attending via telecon. Salomonson noted that the review will be on February 11 and 12, 2004.

Salomonson reported that he participated in the Aqua telecon today, and announced that MODIS would not be a supporter of an Aqua Deep Space Maneuver (DSM) anymore. He asked Xiong to provide numbers on radiances to show how the Terra DSM benefited MODIS Level 1 products; Xiong said that he can get them. Salomonson noted that tomorrow Dr. Mous Chahine (JPL) will be at Goddard to provide a lecture in the GSFC Science colloquium series.

Salomonson noted procurement packages are coming from HQ to Goddard. Most of the MODIS land packages have been received and several from the Oceans area. He is still awaiting the atmospheres and applications packages. It is his present intent to not call for a MODIS Science Team meeting until at least precontract spending authority is provided so that team members will have the resources with which to travel to a meeting. It is his estimate that late March may be the earliest that such a meeting can be projected to happen.

2.2 Instrument

Xiong reported that he checked in with the IOT people, and they confirmed that there has been no change in instrument status.

Salomonson asked about the data dropouts on Terra, and Wolfe said that they're occurring about every 8 minutes and 19 seconds. Salomonson noted that not many people have noticed the dropouts, and Wolfe agreed, saying that even the Atmospheres group hasn't mentioned it. Johnston said that she has asked Gary Alcott to do a sensitivity study to see if he can figure out the threshold for these events. Wolfe said that he thinks they have isolated a circuit on the ground that needs fixing, or it could also be

an issue with the TDRIS link. The cause isn't clear yet, though. Salomonson noted that we lost some data from Aqua because of high winds at the receiving station in Alaska in Alaska.

2.3 DAAC

Kempler reported that everything is proceeding nominally, other than some archive server problems occurring over the past month that they are looking into. However, it's not having a major impact.

2.4 SDST

Masuoka reported that on the data corruption issue, they've tracked the source down to somewhere between the PDR server and the DOORS router, likely between the firewall and the doors router. They're still trying to find the exact source, though now they know it's not between the EDC and NSIDC DAACs. The problem could be a product of network load, though they'll know more after further testing.

Masuoka noted that they're conducting a lights-out test of MODIS product generation in MODAPS over 1 shift on Monday or Tuesday of next week. The test is to demonstrate the capability to run MODAPS without operations staff on 1 shift, thereby enabling a reduction of MODAPS operations costs.

Masuoka said that MODAPS will do more distribution to the team using a low-cost RAID disk configured as a data pool, starting in August of this year.

Suggestions from the SWGD workshop on data access are being considered in the upcoming POP for the ESDIS budget. One principal suggestion was providing additional resources to ECHO to take it from a prototype to an operational system.

2.5 Land

Johnston reported that Jeff Morrisette has an updated list of metrics accessible through the Land web page describing the on error bars and accuracies of Land products. Salomonson said that it would be useful to see how the uncertainty error bar has changed over time, and Johnston said that she is sure that Morrisette could add that information to what he's tracking now.

Wolfe reported that the Collection 4 Aqua products will be released in the next week (forward and reprocessing). Most products will be at least in the provisional stage, and possibly validated as well (stage one); though they still need to be looked at. They'll be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, though most are equivalent to where the Terra products were/are in this stage. Johnston asked if there have been discussion on the annual MODIS Product Review, and Salomonson said not yet. McClain noted that product development and status will be a topic at the April meeting (see section 2.7). Wolfe said that we can work out validation statuses for Land products. Masuoka noted that one step in getting a list of products for the Collection 5 reprocessing for Land will include community feedback from meetings similar to what has taken place in the ocean color community.

2.6 Cryosphere

Hall noted that there is a Land User Workshop coming up, and the idea came up during an NSIDC telecon of holding an EOS-wide snow and ice user workshop. It could be held in conjunction with another workshop or big meeting, such as the IGARSS meeting in Anchorage in September, or as a stand-alone meeting near Goddard. It should be held in the next year, depending on what stages the relevant instruments are in (such as ICESAT, AMSR, etc.). Salomonson noted that AMSR will start delivering products March 1, 2004.

2.7 Oceans

McClain noted that his group typically posts a lot of their analyses to the oceans web site so that people can compare the data with that of other instruments. It's a valuable information resource. He also noted that the Oceans website is available and incorporates many of the features and more of the previous MODIS oceans homepage , and provides a lot of useful information to the user community. They've also been looking at comparisons of Aqua and Terra with SeaWiFS; basically there are three implementations in the BRDF algorithm, and they're looking at the nuances because they're not sure that the algorithm is robust in all situations. All those analyses will be posted because they want the community to tell us what to work on.

McClain noted that there will be an SST meeting in March at NASA HQ. Paula Bontempi will also be holding a Science Team Meeting in April in Washington, and will be sending out an announcement soon. This meeting will be for her investigators and the community at large: what results people have gotten, a poster session, the future in terms of science, updates on NPP VIIRS, and informing the community what's going on. McClain noted that Bontempi's meeting will be in mid-April, on a Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 New Action Items

None.

3.2 Old Action Items

3.2.1 Tech Team to further discuss TRW using MODIS data for validation of the NPP/NPOESS production process.

Status: Open.

3.2.2 Kempler to bring back some proposals for how the disciplines can deal with the DAAC distribution problem.

Status: Open.